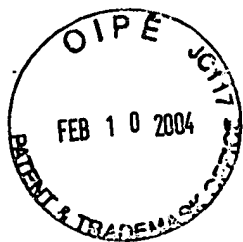


02-11-04



Attorney Docket No. 030263

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: :  
Rowland et al. :  
Application No. 10/625,868 : SLEEVE FOR COVERING A LADDER  
Filing Date: July 23, 2003 : RUNG  
Group Art Unit: 3634 :

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) STATEMENT

February 10, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box: 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed please find a 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) Statement for the above-identified application.

"Express Mail" mailing label number EP524411888 US

Date of Deposit February 10, 2004

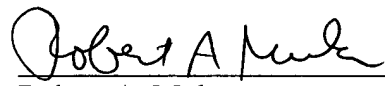
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box: 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Patricia G. Mach

The Statement has been executed by an Officer of the Assignee of the entire right, title and interest in the above-identified application.

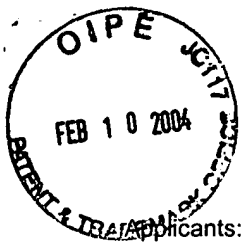
Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 10, 2004

  
Robert A. Muha  
Registration No. 44,249

Kirkpatrick & Lockhart LLP  
Henry W. Oliver Building  
535 Smithfield Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2312

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E-mail: [rmuha@kl.com](mailto:rmuha@kl.com)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) Statement

Applicants: Rowland et al.

For: SLEEVE FOR COVERING A LADDER RUNG

Serial No.: 10/625,868

Filed: July 23, 2003

**BellSouth Intellectual Property Corporation (a Delaware corporation)** is the assignee of the entire right, title and interest in the patent identified above by virtue of either:

- A. ☒ An assignment from the inventor(s) of the **patent application** identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on \_\_\_\_\_ at Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_ or for which a copy thereof is attached.

OR

- B. ☐ A chain of title from the inventor(s) of the patent application identified above to the current assignee as shown below:

1. From \_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_

The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on \_\_\_\_\_ at Reel \_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

☐ Copies of assignments or other documents in the chain of title are attached.

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is empowered to sign this statement on behalf of the assignee.

**Power Of Attorney**

Effective as of March 4, 2002, BellSouth Intellectual Property Corporation hereby revokes all previous powers of attorney, if any, and appoints the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Tim S. Bedard,	Reg. No. 53,978	Daniel R. Miller,	Reg. No. 52,030
Roberto Capriotti	Reg. No. 46,599	Franklin B. Molin,	Reg. No. 37,397
George D. Dickos,	Reg. No. 30,048	Robert A. Muha,	Reg. No. 44,249
Thomas J. Edgington,	Reg. No. 34,324	Mark A. Nuzzo,	Reg. No. 53,396
Christine R. Ethridge,	Reg. No. 30,557	Jonathan C. Parks,	Reg. No. 40,120
Kami Lammon-Hilinski	Reg. No. 51,913	Bernard G. Pike	Reg. No. 46,993
Jesse A. Hirshman,	Reg. No. 40,016	Robert V. Racunas, Jr.	Reg. No. 43,027
Mark G. Knedeisen,	Reg. No. 42,747	David Schramm	Reg. No. 41,295
William E. Kuss,	Reg. No. 41,919	Craig M. Waller,	Reg. No. 54,771
James R. Kyper,	Reg. No. 27,346	Robert D. Yeager	Reg. No. 25,047
Michael D. Lazzara,	Reg. No. 41,142	M. Todd Mitchem	Reg. No. 40,731
Mark R. Leslie,	Reg. No. 36,360	Geoff Sutcliffe	Reg. No. 36,348

**Please Direct All Correspondence to:** Robert A. Muha, Esq.  
Kirkpatrick & Lockhart, LLP  
Henry W. Oliver Building  
535 Smithfield Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2312

**Declaration**

I hereby declare that my presentation of this paper constitutes a certification under 37 C.F.R § 10.18, which provides, in part, that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and that further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful statements may jeopardize the validity of the application and any patent issuing therefrom.

Date

02/02/04

Signature

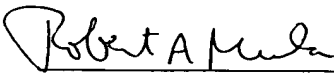
Jacqueline Gregorski

Name

Jacqueline Gregorski

Title

Vice President-BellSouth Intellectual Property Corporation

Form PTO-1595 (Rev. 03/01) OMB No. 0651-0037 (exp. 5/31/2002) Tab settings ⇒	<b>RECORDATION FORM COVER SHEET</b> <b>PATENTS ONLY</b>	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.		
1. Name of conveying party(ies): <u>Martha F. Rowland, Frederick J. Diggle</u> Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	2. Name and address of receiving party(ies) Name: <u>BellSouth Intellectual Property Corporation</u> Internal Address: _____ _____ Street Address: <u>824 Market Street, Suite 901</u> _____ City: <u>Wilmington</u> State: <u>DE</u> Zip: <u>19801</u> Additional name(s) and address(es) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
3. Nature of conveyance: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment <input type="checkbox"/> Merger <input type="checkbox"/> Security Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Name Other _____ Execution Date of Assignment : <u>July 17, 2003; July 17, 2003</u>		
4. Application number(s) or patent number(s): If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: <u>July 17, 2003</u> A. Patent Application No.(s) _____ B. Patent No.(s) _____ Additional number(s) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed.  Name: <u>Robert A. Muha</u> Internal Address: <u>Kirkpatrick &amp; Lockhart LLP</u> <u>Henry W. Oliver Building</u> _____ Street Address: <u>535 Smithfield Street</u> City: <u>Pittsburgh</u> State: <u>PA</u> Zip: <u>15222-2312</u>	6. Total number of applications and patents involved: <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">  </span> 7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) \$ <u>40.00</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> Authorized to be charged to deposit account 8. Deposit account number: _____ (Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)	
<b>DO NOT USE THIS SPACE</b>		
9. Statement and signature. <i>To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.</i>  <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 30%;"> <u>Robert A. Muha</u>            Name of Person Signing         </div> <div style="width: 30%; text-align: center;">             Signature         </div> <div style="width: 30%; text-align: right;"> <u>July 23 2003</u>            Date         </div> </div> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;">         Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">5</span> </div>		

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:  
 Mail Stop: Assignment Recordation Services, Director of the US Patent and Trademark Office  
 P.O. Box: 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attorney's Docket No. 030263

**PATENT**

For: ☒ U.S. and/or ☒ Foreign Rights

For: ☒ U.S. Application or

☐ U.S. Provisional Application

For: ☐ U.S. Patent

For: ☐ PCT Application

By: Multiple Inventors

### ASSIGNMENT OF INVENTION (MULTIPLE INVENTORS)

In consideration of the payment by ASSIGNEE to ASSIGNOR of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and for other good and valuable consideration,

#### ASSIGNORS (Inventors):

Martha F. Rowland

(type or print name of inventors)

1401 Carson Road, Apt. 75

Birmingham, AL 35215

USA

Address

Nationality

Frederick J. Diggle

2054-H Vestavia Park Court

Birmingham, AL 35216

USA

hereby sells, assigns and transfers to

ASSIGNEE:

BellSouth Intellectual Property Corporation  
(type or print name of ASSIGNEE)

824 Market Street, Suite 901  
Address

(a Delaware corporation)  
Nationality

Wilmington, DE 19801

and the successors, assigns and legal representatives of the ASSIGNEE

(complete one of the following)

☒ the entire right, title and interest

☐ an undivided \_\_\_\_\_ percent ( \_\_\_\_\_ %) interest for the United States and its territorial possessions

(check the following box, if foreign rights are also to be assigned)

☒ and in all foreign countries, including all rights to claim priority, in and to any and all improvements which are disclosed in the invention entitled: **SLEEVE FOR COVERING A LADDER RUNG**

(check and complete (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) or (g))

and which is found in

(a) ☒ U.S. patent application executed on even date herewith

(b) ☐ U.S. patent application executed on \_\_\_\_\_

(c) ☐ U.S. provisional application naming the above inventor(s) for the above-entitled invention

☐ Express mail label no.: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailed: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ To comply with 37 CFR 3.21 for recordal of this assignment, I, an ASSIGNOR signing below, hereby authorize and request my attorney to insert below the filing date and application number when they become known.

(d) ☐ U.S. application no.: \_\_\_\_\_ filed on \_\_\_\_\_

(e) ☐ International application no. PCT / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
filed on \_\_\_\_\_

(f) ☐ U.S. patent no. \_\_\_\_\_ issued \_\_\_\_\_

☐ A change of address to which correspondence is to be sent regarding patent maintenance fees is being sent separately.

(also check (g), if foreign application(s) is also being assigned)

(g) ☒ and any legal equivalent thereof in a foreign country, including the right to claim priority and, in and to, all Letters Patent to be obtained for said invention by the above application or any continuation, division, renewal, or substitute thereof, and as to letters patent any reissue or re-examination thereof.

ASSIGNOR hereby covenants that no assignment, sale, agreement or encumbrance has been or will be made or entered into which would conflict with this assignment;

ASSIGNOR further covenants that ASSIGNEE will, upon its request, be provided promptly with all pertinent facts and documents relating to said invention and said Letters Patent and legal equivalents as may be known and accessible to ASSIGNOR and will testify as to the same in any interference, litigation or proceeding related thereto and will promptly execute and deliver to ASSIGNEE or its legal representatives any and all papers, instruments or affidavits required to apply for, obtain, maintain, issue and enforce said application, said invention and said Letters Patent and said equivalents thereof which may be necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We have hereunto set hand and seal on the date indicated below.

WARNING: The date of signing must be the same as the date of execution of the application, if item (a) was checked above.

Martha F. Rowland  
(type name of Inventor)

Martha F Rowland 7/17/03  
Signature of INVENTOR Date

Frederick J. Diggle  
(type name of Inventor)

Frederick J. Diggle 7-17-3  
Signature of INVENTOR Date

☒ Notarization or Legalization Page Added.

NOTE: No witnessing, notarization or legalization is necessary. If the assignment is notarized or legalized, then it will only be prima facie evidence of execution. 35 USC 261. Use next page if notarization is desired.



NOTARIZATION OR LEGALIZATION ACCOMPANYING ASSIGNMENT

NOTE: Executing this page is not required for assignment and is only prima facie evidence of execution, 35 USC 261.

Details of Country \_\_\_\_\_

and place of signing of assignment

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Before me this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2003 personally appeared the above named individual(s), to me known to be the person(s) who ☒ is ☐ are described in and who executed the foregoing assignment instrument and acknowledged to me that

☐ he

☐ his

☐ she

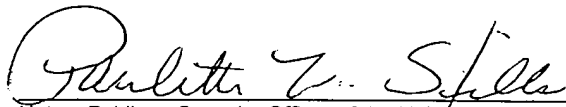
executed the same of

☐ her

☒ they

☒ their

own free will for the purpose therein expressed.

  
Notary Public or Consular Officer of the United States of America

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF ALABAMA AT LARGE  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: Oct 20, 2004  
BONDED THRU NOTARY PUBLIC UNDERWRITERS